

# SOCIAL ENTERPRISES IN THE NETHERLANDS:

Old wine in new skins?

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# Dutch context



**Rich and long tradition with hybrid public service provision: notoriously fragmented and diverse third sector**



**Confusion and ambiguity about the concept of SE**

International definition would apply to many third sector organisations

Narrow Dutch definition only applies to startups

- Multitude of examples of SE startups, mainly on local level
- Work integration, public health and welfare, environmental protection



**No separate legal status or policy framework for SE**

SE can have various legal forms  
Every organisation can call itself a SE

Many do: SE bias



**Attempts to capture essence of SE and to distinguish them from other hybrids**

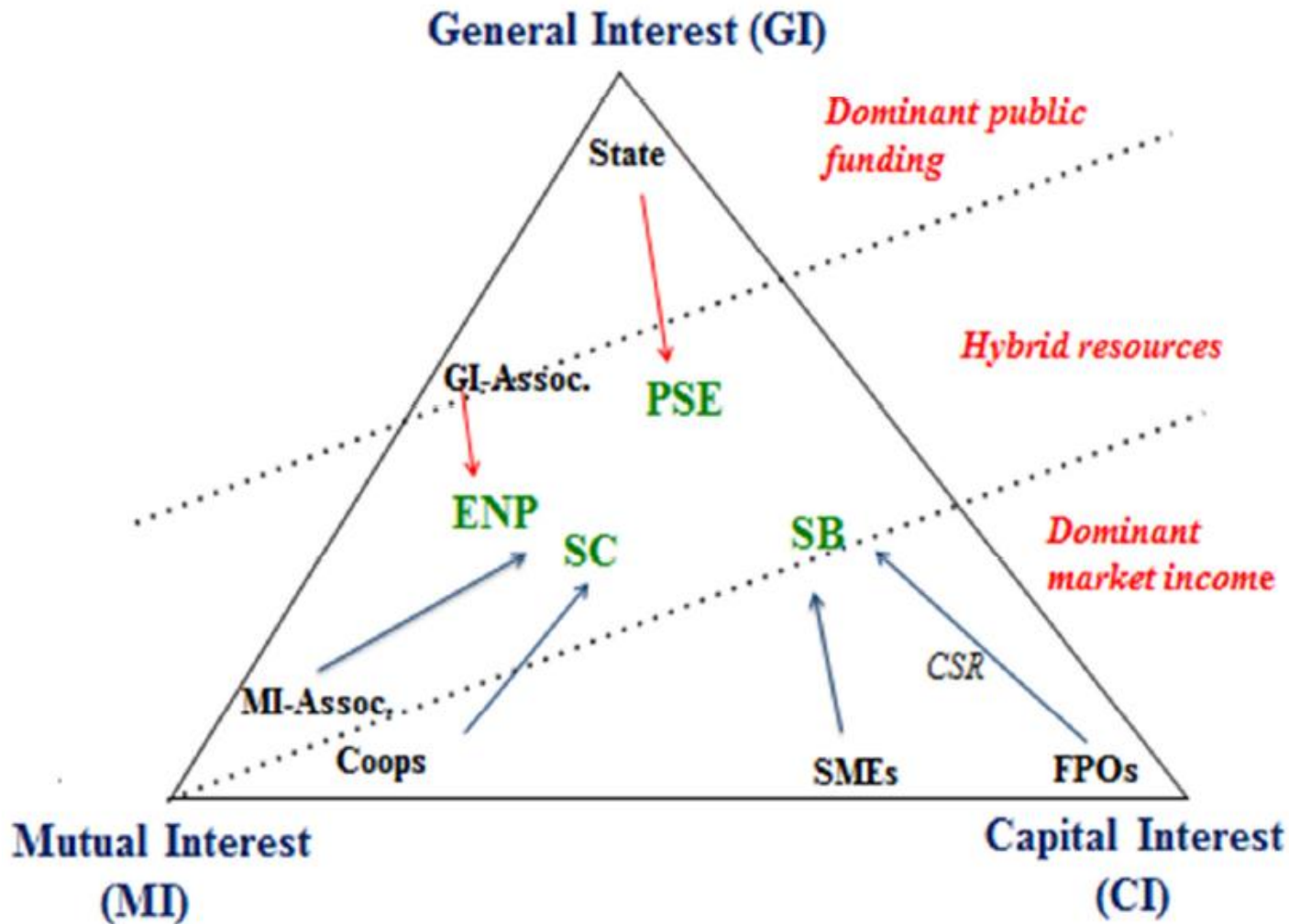
Sector still struggling with own definition

# Social enterprise continuum

Financial value							
Social value							
Charities, citizens' initiatives, Third sector		Traditional non profits		Social enterprises		<i>Regular</i> companies	
Donations and / or subsidies		Donations, subsidies, member contributions and market revenue		Majority of income from market transactions (sales of goods and services).  No profit objective		Majority of income from market transactions.  All profits are reinvested.	
				Majority of income from market transactions.  Some profits paid in dividends		Majority of income from market transactions. Corporate social responsibility as a core value.	
Only societal impact		Social impact most important				Financial value most important	

Source: Translated from Sociaal-Economische Raad (2015), p.13.

# A more realistic conceptualization



Defourny, J. and Nyssens, M. (2016) "Fundamentals for an International Typology of Social Enterprise Models", ICSEM Working Papers, No. 33, Liege: The International Comparative Social Enterprise Models (ICSEM) Project.

# Support structures



## Local government

Guidelines for municipalities how to treat and interact with SE

Action plans by several municipalities

But: no preferential treatment!

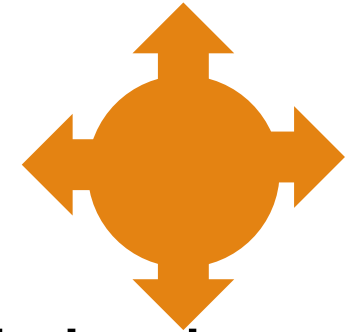


## National government

Discussion about creating special legal form

Following OECD recommendations: better definition of what SE constitutes and registration process (?)

Making potential customers aware of SE and business opportunities, helping the sector innovate (?)



## Initiatives by sector itself

Governance Code

Quality Label

# Showcases local government



## Amsterdam Impact

Social Entrepreneurship Action Programme:  
Progress Report

13 June 2017

The screenshot shows the MAEX Rotterdam website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Landelijk Rotterdam' and 'Contact', 'FAQ', 'Inloggen'. Below this is a menu with 'Initiatieven', 'Producten', 'Impuls', 'Social return', 'Thema's', 'SDG's', 'Over MAEX', and 'Nieuws'. A search bar contains 'sociaal ondernemen'. Two buttons are visible: 'Bekijk initiatieven' and 'Initiatief aanmelden'. The main content is a map of Rotterdam with numerous colored dots (blue, yellow, red) representing different initiatives. A search bar at the bottom of the map area contains 'Zoek op initiatief of locati...'. Below the search bar are several filter dropdowns: 'Label', 'Help met', 'Thema', 'SDG', and 'Fase'. A 'Verklein kaart' button is also present in the bottom right corner of the map area.

# Showcases national government



**Het Impactpad**



**BOOSTING SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT  
IN THE NETHERLANDS**

*In-depth policy review*

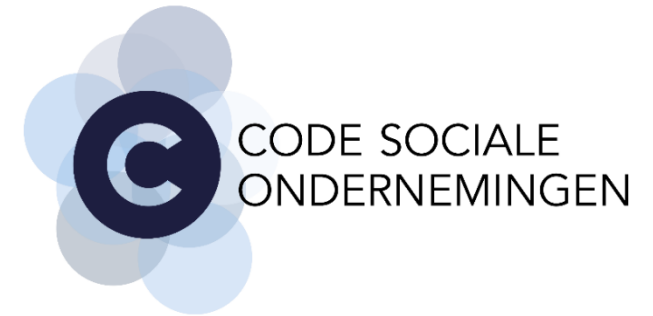
The logo for social enterprise.nl features the text "social enterprise.nl" in white, lowercase letters on a red background. The background is a rectangle with a white triangular corner cut-off at the top right.

social  
enterprise.nl

The logo for PSO consists of a blue stylized arrow pointing right, followed by the letters "PSO" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

PSO

prestatieladder  
socialer  
ondernemen



## Showcases sector

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[www.empowerse.eu](http://www.empowerse.eu)

## EMPOWER-SE

Empowering the next generation  
of social enterprise scholars

Stay tuned

